

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 03294 100743Z

20

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 /014 W
----- 072473

R 100620Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4603
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

S E C R E T LUSAKA 3294

DEPT FOR AF AND A/SY

NAIROBI FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: STATUS OF REQUEST FOR MARINE SECURITY GUARDS

REF: LUSAKA 3172

SUMMARY: THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN TOLD BY UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS MANDA THAT ITS REQUEST TO HAVE MARINES ASSIGNED TO EMBASSY LUSAKA HAS BEEN CONSIDERED AND REJECTED. WE DO NOT ACCEPT THIS AS A FINAL DECISION AND INTEND TO PURSUE THE MATTER WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND STATE HOUSE. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING A CALL ON MANDA TO DISCUSS ANOTHER MATTER, THE DCM WAS INFORMED THAT THE EMBASSY'S REQUEST FOR MARINE GUARDS HAD BEEN REVIEWED. ASSIGNING MARINES TO LUSAKA, MANDA SAID, WOULD CREATE A PRECEDENT. THIS PRECEDENT COULD BE USED BY OTHER COUNTRIES TO JUSTIFY ASSIGNING MEMBERS OF THEIR ARMED FORCES TO THEIR EMBASSIES IN LUSAKA. GIVEN THE DELICATE NATURE OF ZAMBIA'S SECURITY POSITION AS A FRONT LINE STATE, THE PRESENCE OF FOREIGN MILITARY COULD POSE SERIOUS POLITICAL PROBLEMS FOR THE GRZ. FOR THESE REASONS THE GRZ COULD NOT AGREE TO THE ASSIGNMENT OF MARINES. HOWEVER, THE GRZ WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO REQUESTS BY THE EMBASSY FOR INCREASED PROTECTION TO BE PROVIDED BY THE ZAMBIAN POLICE.

2. THE DCM EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT AND ASKED IF THE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 03294 100743Z

REVIEW WHICH HAD BEEN DONE HAD TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT FORMER

FOREIGN MINISTER BANDA'S STATEMENT TO AMBASSADOR WILKOWSKI THAT PERMISSION HAD BEEN GRANTED TO ASSIGN THE MARINES (REFTEL). MANDA SAID THAT HE WAS UNAWARE OF BANDA'S STATEMENT. THE DCM THEN ASKED IF THE REVIEW HAD BEEN UNDERTAKEN AS A FOLLOW ON TO AMBASSADOR LOW'S MEETING WITH FONMIN MWALE (REFTEL). MANDA'S RESPONSE LEFT THE IMPRESSION THAT HE WAS UNAWARE OF AMBASSADOR LOW'S APPROACH. MANDA'S RESPONSE TO A QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THE DECISION TO DENY PERMISSION FOR MARINE GUARDS HAD BEEN MADE BY AN AUTHORITY HIGHER THAN THE MINISTRY WAS FUZZY. HOWEVER, HE APPEARED TO BE SAYING THAT THE MINISTRY'S REVIEW HAD BEEN LIMITED TO A PERUSAL OF THE FILES PERTAINING TO THE MARINES.

3. THE DCM SAID HE HOPED THAT THE NEGATIVE DECISION ON MARINE GUARDS WAS NOT FINAL. HE THEN ASKED IF MANDA COULD HAVE SOMEONE CHECK ON THE FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER'S STATEMENT TO AMBASSADOR WILKOWSKI THAT PERMISSION HAD BEEN GRANTED. HE PROMISED TO DO SO.

COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THE UNDER SECRETARY WAS NOT THOROUGHLY BRIEFED ON THE STATUS OF OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON MARINE GUARDS. HIS PRESENTATION LEFT THE CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT HIS SUBORDINATES HAD REVIEWED THE FILES AT THE MINISTRY. HAVING FOUND NO WRITTEN RECORD OF BANDA'S STATEMENT TO AMBASSADOR WILKOWSKI THAT PERMISSION HAD BEEN GRANTED, THEY THEN BRIEFED THE UNDER SECRETARY AND SUGGESTED THAT HE TURN THE REQUEST DOWN. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS IS A FINAL TURN DOWN, AND INTEND TO CONTINUE PURSUING THE MATTER WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND STATE HOUSE. LOW

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LUSAKA03294
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760456-0431
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761255/aaaabuxh.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SY
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LUSAKA 3172
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUL 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <08 JUL 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATUS OF REQUEST FOR MARINE SECURITY GUARDS
TAGS: ASEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006